

Top Secret



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Weekly Report

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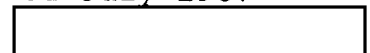
Supplement



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31 July 1967



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SUPPLEMENT

BRAZIL

Nationalist sentiment on the issue of nuclear development is a factor in Brazil's opposition to a nuclear nonproliferation agreement.

Brazil has declined to accept any limitations on its "sovereign right" to carry on the research necessary to manufacture nuclear explosive devices for use in economic development. Although the government apparently has no definite plans to begin such a program, its views have attracted widespread support. Even among moderate leaders, only a few--such as former planning minister Campos--have criticized the policy.

Nuclear development is also being used as a convenient vehicle for stressing the "independence" of Brazil's foreign policy, specifically its diminished reliance on the US. Foreign Ministry spokesmen have branded "technological underdevelopment" the most onerous form of dependence.

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[redacted] Foreign Minister Magalhaes Pinto, well aware of the appeal of his position to the Brazilian military, is exploiting the nationalistic fervor over nuclear policy to further his own presidential ambitions. President Costa e Silva may not like his foreign minister's grandstanding, but he has made no public effort to dissuade him.



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